

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 104058 TOSEC 110379

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 07219 ACTION SECSTATE INFO PRETORIA
LUSAKA NAIROBI ADDIS ABABA 29 APRIL 76.

QUOTE

UNCLAS BONN 07219

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR US GW XA

SUBJECT: FRG SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS IN AFRICA

REF: STATE 101040;

BEGIN SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAS EMPHASIZED
TO THE PRESS, BLACK AFRICANS AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN
AMBASSADOR THAT THE FRG SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS
IN AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ADDITION TO THE CHANCELLOR'S STATEMENTS (REFTEL),
GENSCHER HAS ALSO ENDORSED US GOALS IN AFRICA.

2. ON APRIL 23 GENSCHER TOLD VISITING UGANDAN FOREIGN
MINISTER JUMA ORIS "THAT THE TIMES OF COLONIALISM AND
RACISM IN AFRICA ARE OVER." HE ADDED THAT BONN HAS
ALWAYS BEEN ON THE SIDE OF AFRICAN INDEPENDENCE. HE
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ADVOCATED SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA,

SAYING THAT HE HOPED THAT THE RHODESIAN CONFLICT WILL BE SETTLED PEACEFULLY.

3. GENSCHER TOLD THE PRC AMBASSADOR ON FEBRUARY 26 THAT "THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REGARDS THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO AFRICA AS AN IMPORTANT AND WELCOME INITIATIVE." BOTH DIPLOMATS ANNOUNCED THE HOPE THAT THE COUNTRIES OF AFRICA COULD BE INDEPENDENT AND STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET.

4. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, GENSCHER SUMMONED THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR TO SAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT IN PRETORIA BEARS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY IN VIEW OF PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA, ADDING THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD HAVE TO EXERCISE ITS DIRECT OR INDIRECT INFLUENCE TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS.

5. GENSCHER REPORTEDLY TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT IN HIS RECENT TALKS WITH BLACK AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS HE GAINED THE IMPRESSION THAT MODERATE VOICES IN AFRICA WERE IN DANGER OF BEING DISPLACED BY EXTREMIST CONCEPTS. BONN ALSO HAD A CLEAR LONG-TERM INTEREST IN SEEING THAT SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS WERE RESOLVED IN A MANNER ALLOWING BLACKS AND WHITES TO LIVE TOGETHER. AT THE PRESENT IMPORTANT STAGE FORCES WHICH SAW THEIR FUTURE IN COOPERATING WITH THE FREE NATIONS OF THE WORLD MUST BE STRENGTHENED.

6. GENSCHER IS ALSO SAID TO HAVE TOLD THE SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR THAT AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN THINKING WAS "FULLY IDENTICAL," AS WAS SHOWN BY THE AFRICAN TOUR OF US SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER.

7. GENSCHER IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED THAT THE RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN PROBLEMS MUST BE SOLVED QUICKLY BECAUSE "TIME WAS RUNNING OUT FOR COLONIALISM AND RACISM." SOUTH AFRICA HAD A DECISIVE ROLE TO PLAY, AND IT COULD MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION IN AFRICA IF IT WERE NOW TO "DISCARD BALLAST."
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